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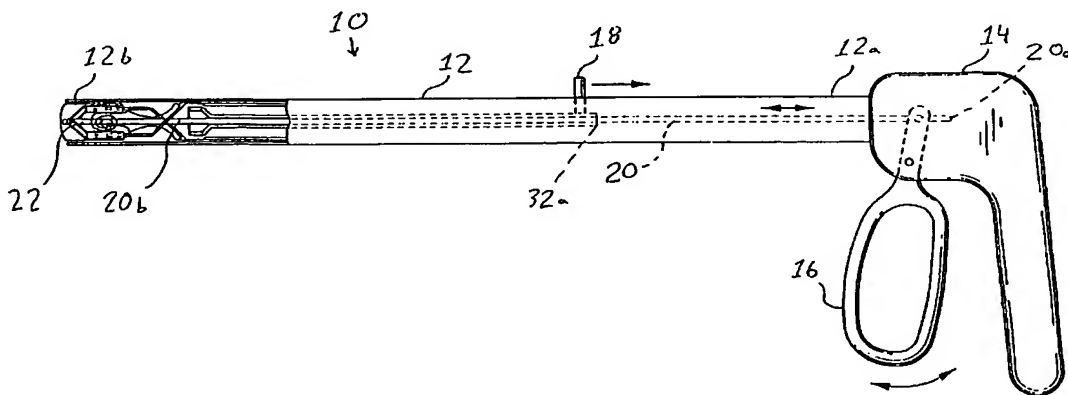
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Declarations under Rule 4.17:

— as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for the following designations AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: PUNCTURE SITE CLOSURE DEVICE



(57) Abstract: A laparoscopic fascial closure device (10) for fashioning a secure closure about a laparoscopic puncture site. The device comprises an elongate cannula (12) having proximal (12a) and distal (12b) ends. A needle suture complex (22) is selectively deployed from the distal end (12b) of the device that is operative to deploy a suture across the puncture site from within the body and draw the free ends of the suture outwardly from the body via the laparoscopic port site. The device (10) is configured to be utilized through a ten millimeter or larger laparoscopic port, and is operative to position the suture at the puncture site such that the suture extends in a diametrically-opposed configuration at least 1.0 cm or greater across opposed sides of the puncture site.



(AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG)

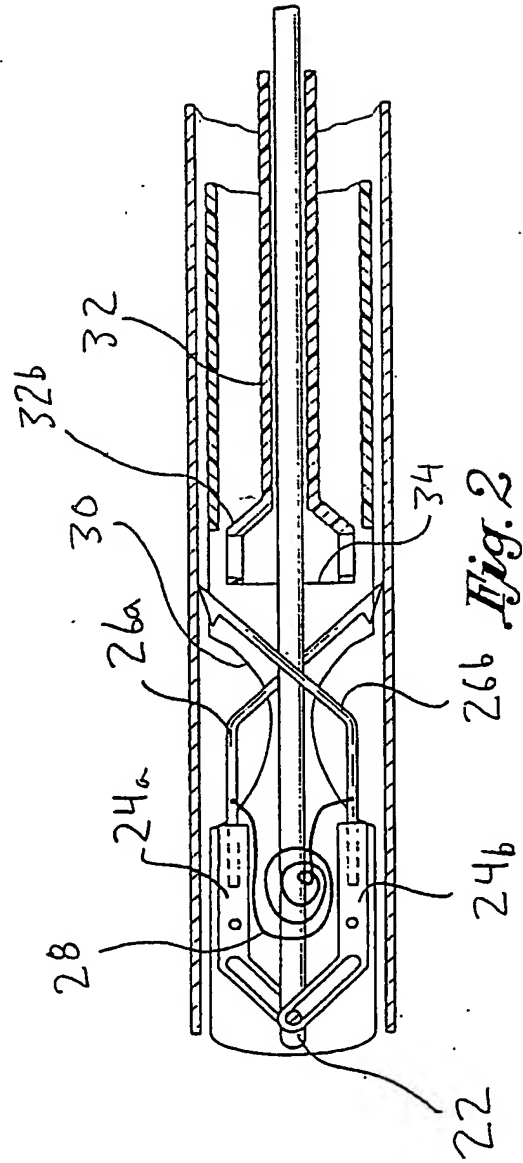
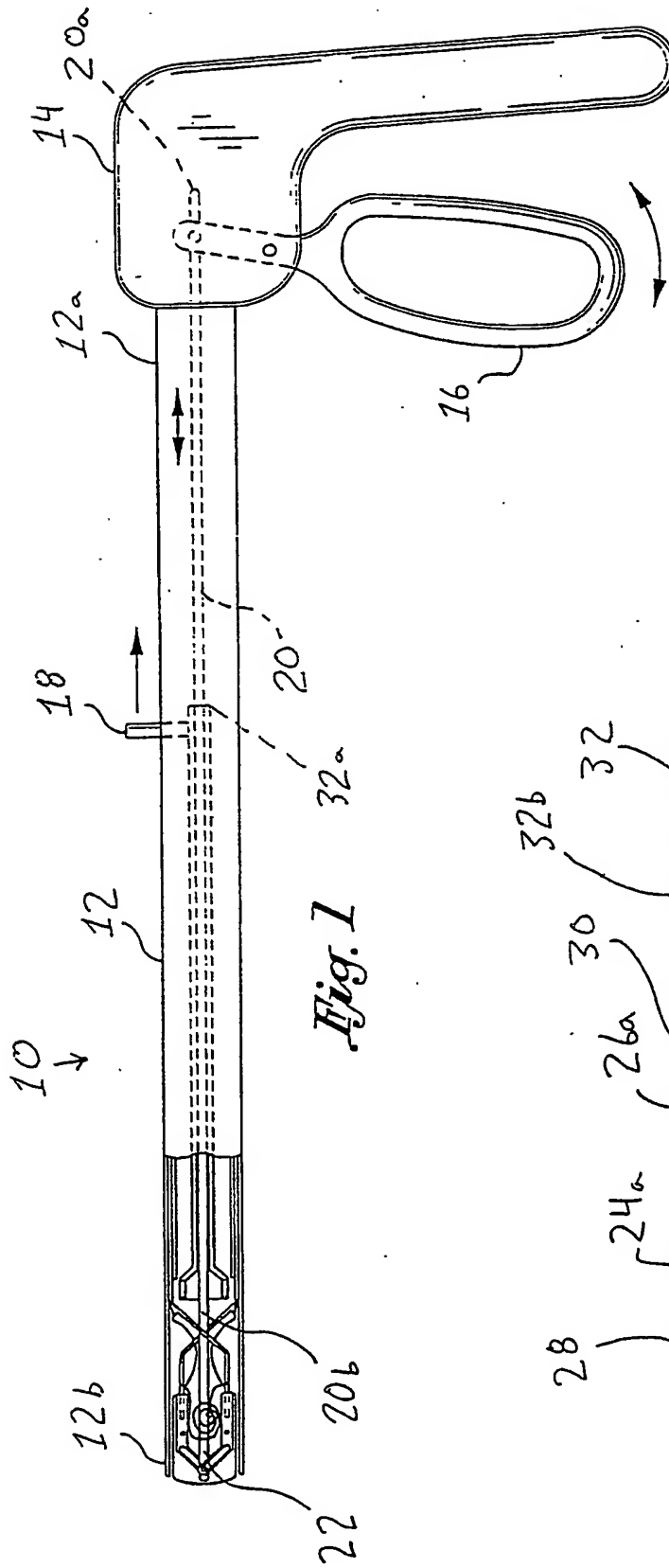
- as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii)) for all designations

Published:

- with international search report

- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

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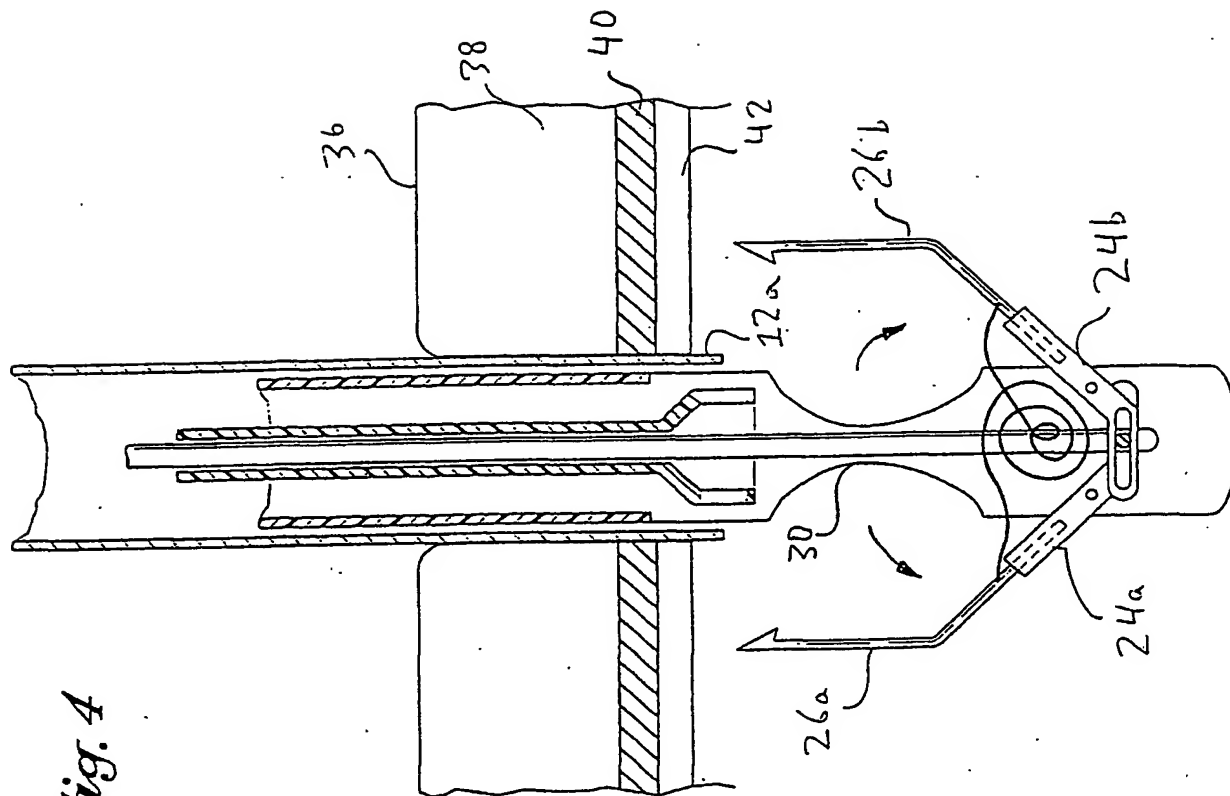


Fig. 4

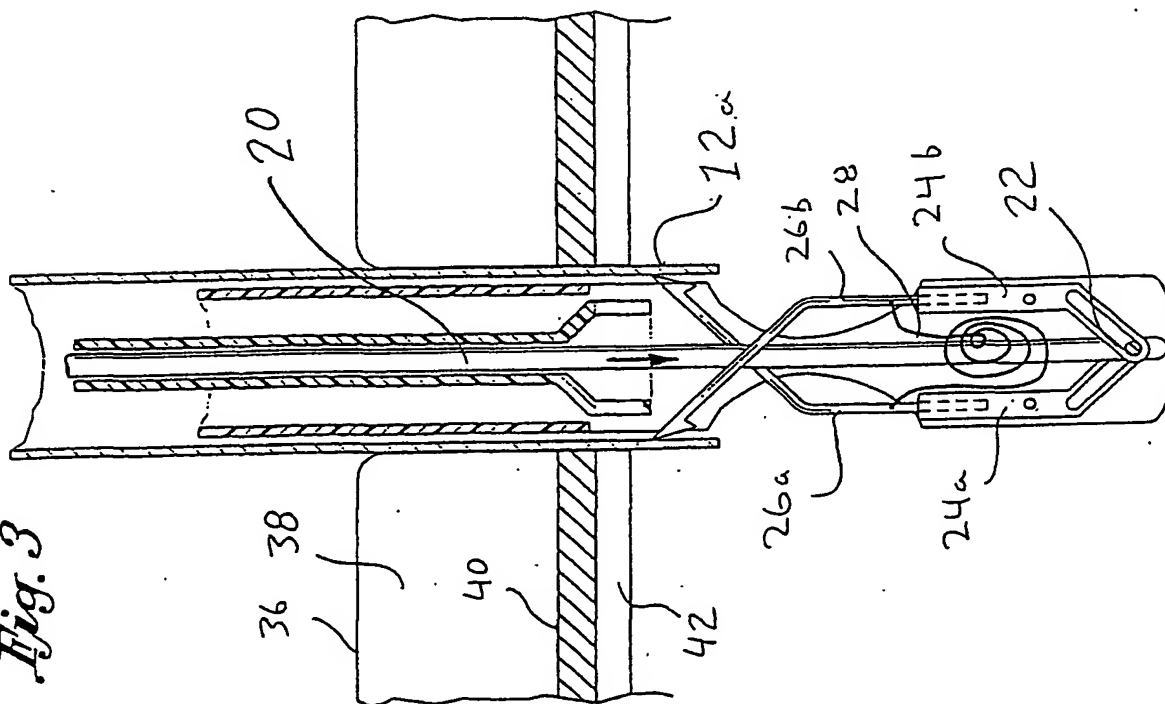
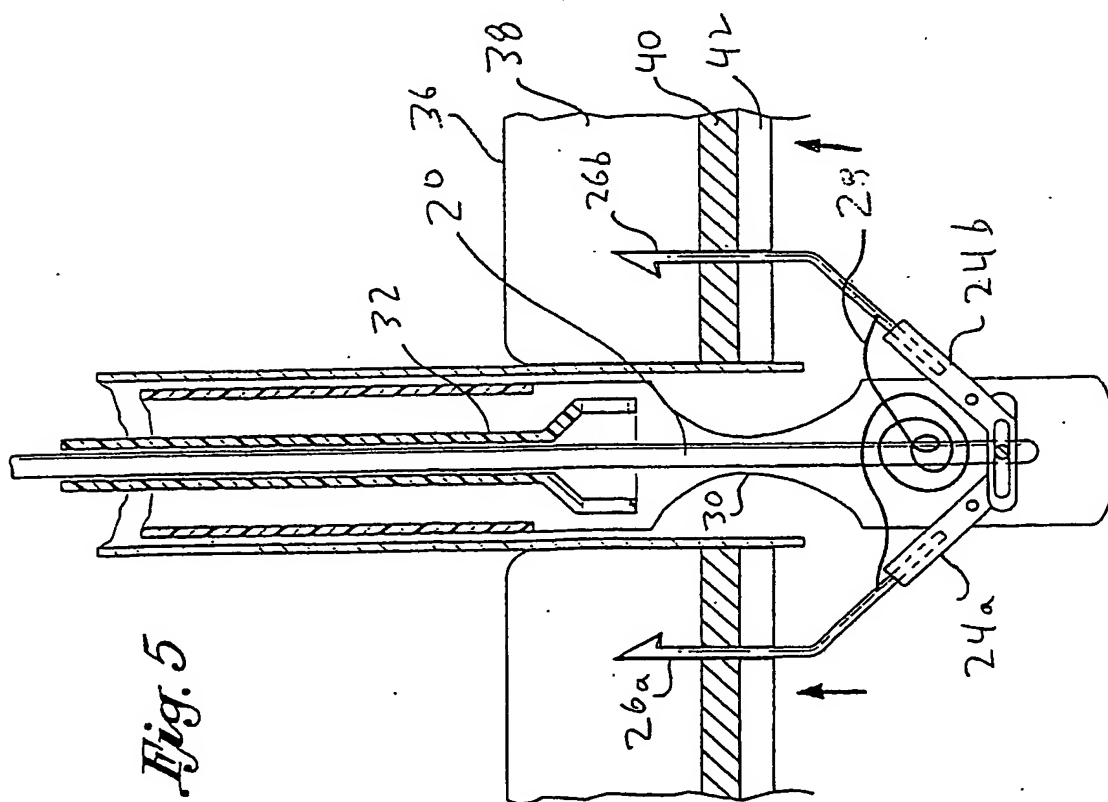
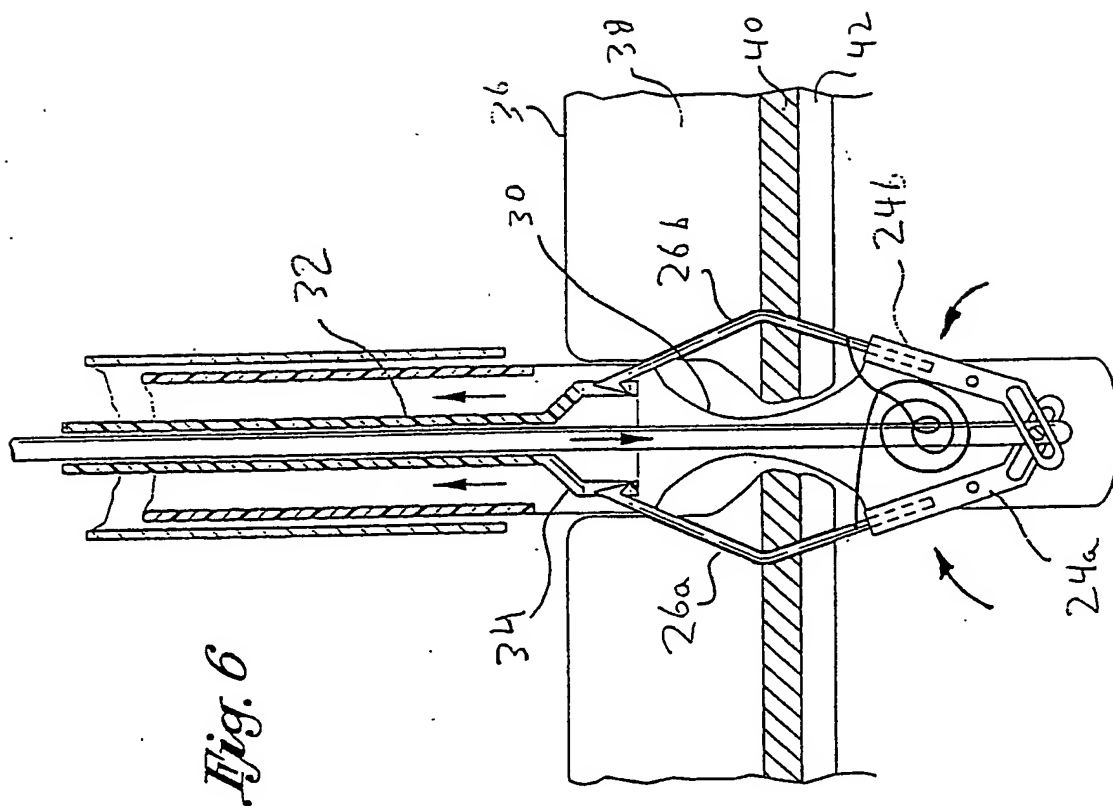


Fig. 3



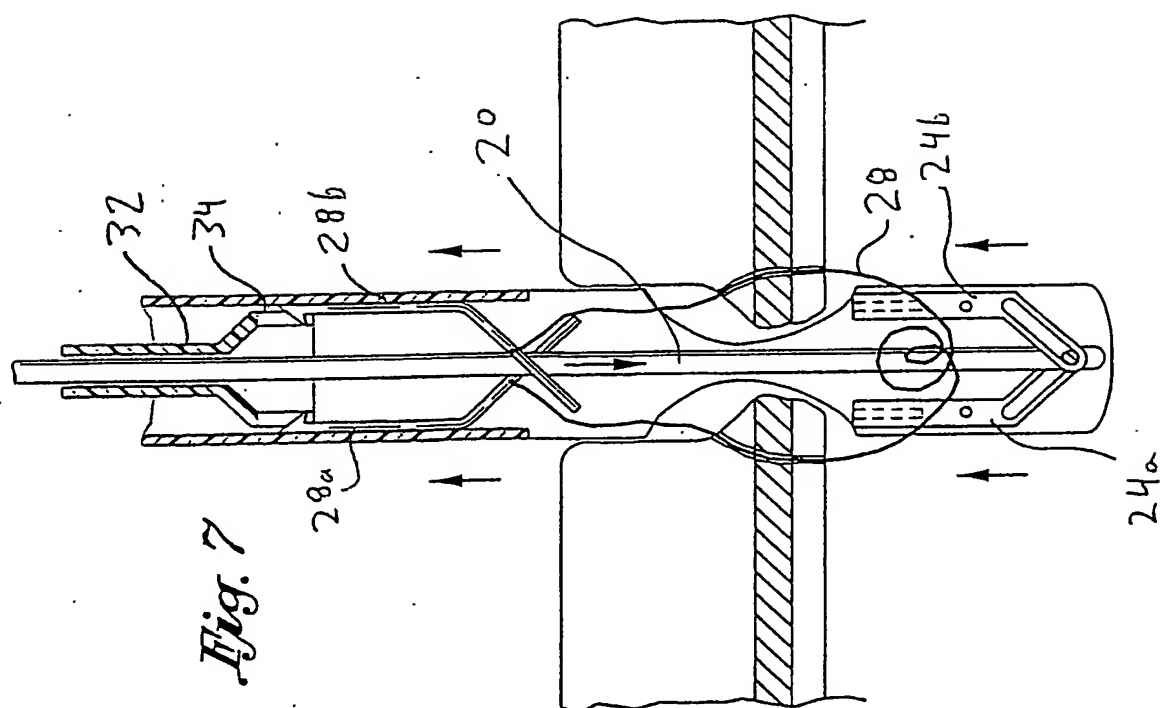
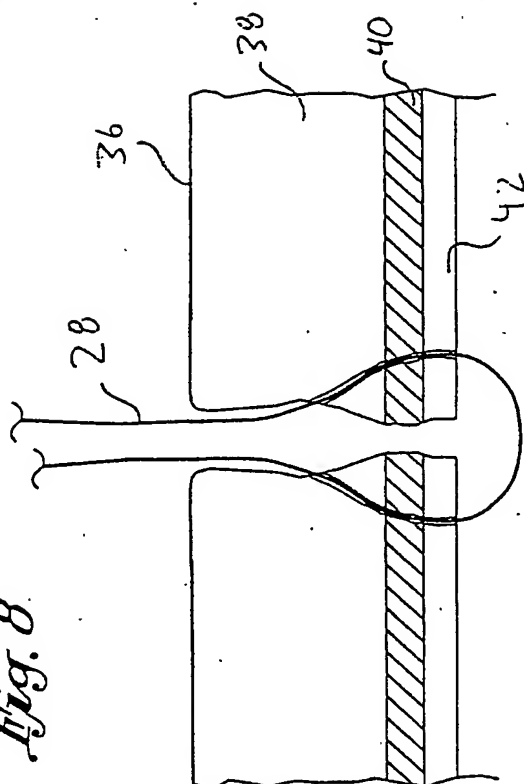


Fig. 8



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US03/06000

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : A61B 17/00

US CL : 606/144

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 606/144, 148, 145, 139

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5,374,275 A (BRADLEY et al.) 20 December 1994; column 6, lines 24-30 and 46-55; column 1, lines 15-20 and 49-54; Fig. 7.	1-14
Y	US 5,741,277 A (GORDON et al.) 21 April 1998, Fig. 55A; column 31, line 39 to column 32, line 20.	1-9
Y	US 5,860,991 A (KLEIN et al.) 19 January 1999, Figures 2, 9, 35B.	1

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19 June 2003 (19.06.2003)

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Name and mailing address of the ISA/US

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